

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01860 291720Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2578

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1860

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW

SUBJECT: BERLIN REACTIONS TO US-FRG DIFFERENCES

1. LOCALLY BRANDT HAS COME UNDER CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM FOR ALLOWING FRG RELATIONS WITH US TO SUFFER. IN OCTOBER 27 INTERVIEW WITH MORGENPOST, GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ ADDRESSED "URGENT" APPEAL TO US AND FRG TO OVERCOME THEIR DIFFERENCES QUICKLY, "IN THE INTERESTS OF BERLIN" AS WELL AS OF THE ALLIANCE GENERALLY. NOTING THAT LOCAL TIES REMAINED UNTRoubLED, HE ASSERTED THAT GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH US WAS "IRREPLACEABLE" BOTH FOR BERLIN AND FRG. CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER PRO-ISRAELI REMARKS, SCHUETZ CRITICIZED BONN ATTITUDE TOWARDS US ARMS SHIPMENTS FROM FRG, COMMENTING THAT IT WAS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH PROCLAIMED MILITARY NEUTRALITY TO HELP A FRIEND IN NEED. U.S., HE CONTINUED, HAD ADOPTED RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE IN NEAR EAST DURING RECENT DAYS, "FOR WHICH WE SHOULD ALL BE VERY THANKFUL."

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01860 291720Z

2. AT LUNCH WITH DEPUTY COMMANDANTS OCTOBER 29, SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS STOBBE COMMENTED TO MINISTER THAT GOVERNING MAYOR'S REMARKS WERE CAREFULLY CHOSEN TO DISSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM BRANDT'S POSITION. STOBBE SAID SCHUETZ SAW NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE FOR HIS PRO-ISRAELI POSITION (BERLIN 1754), AND THAT HE SPOKE OUT IN AWARENESS OF BERLIN'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR CITY'S 6,000 JEWS, WHO REPRESENTED WHAT WAS LEFT OF COMMUNITY OF SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND. HE DID NOT SAY SO IN SO MANY WORDS, BUT INTIMATED THAT HE HOPED AMERICAN EARS WERE LISTENING. (MISSION HAS BEEN CALLED BY SEVERAL BERLINERS WHO WISHED US TO KNOW THEY REGRETTED BONN GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS.)

3. SPRINGER PRESS HAS TAKEN BONN GOVERNMENT STRONGLY TO TASK FOR INTRODUCING DISCORD IN US-FRG ALLIANCE. BZ ATTRIBUTED DIFFERENCES TO GENERAL BONN ATTITUDE OF EXPECTING TO BE PROTECTED BY U.S. BUT OFFERING LITTLE IN RETURN, AND DECLARED THAT GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP WAS UNDER "HEAVY PRESSURE." BERLINER MORGENPOST MAINTAINED THAT BRANDT'S "UNCONTROLLED ATTACK" ON WASHINGTON "DIRECTLY CONCERNS THE SECURITY AND FREEDOM OF WEST BERLIN AND OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC." MORGENPOST WAS ALSO HIGHLY CRITICAL OF CHANCELLOR FOR LEAVING ON VACATION WHEN US-FRG RELATIONS WERE AT SUCH A STAGE.

4. COMMENT IN OTHER BERLIN PAPERS HAS GENERALLY BEEN MORE RESTRAINED, BUT INDEPENDENT TAGESSPIEGEL ALSO CRITICIZED DECISION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DISTANCE ITSELF FROM US PUBLICLY AS WELL AS ON DIPLOMATIC LEVEL. KLEIN

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